

The Rush County Board of Commissioners met in regular session Monday, August 25, 2014 with Commissioners Bruce Levi, Mark Bacon, Ken Masters, Mary Ann Beard Auditor and Attorney Leigh Morning in attendance.

Commissioner Bruce Levi called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Minutes of the August 11th meeting were approved on a motion by Ken Masters with a second by Mark Bacon.

CHA COMPANIES

Tom Shannon of CHA Companies introduced himself to the Commissioners. His company will be doing the design work for bridge #138 and they also perform bridge inspections.

APC

Area Plan Director Rhea Dawn Buckley requested a public hearing for the Commissioners to consider the chicken ordinance. That date was set for September 22nd.

EMA

EMA Director Chuck Kemker reported that the EMA, the Health Department, and the LEPC are teaming together to present a Disaster & Preparedness Fair on September 6th. Also a full scale emergency exercise is being planned for next July.

RIDE RUSH

Wanda Henderson presented the Grant Application and Authorization Resolution for Ride Rush. The \$77,000 grant forms were signed by Commissioner Levi on a motion by Mark Bacon and a second by Ken Masters. The Resolution was signed with Mark Bacon offering the motion. Ken Masters seconded the action. Motion carried.

RUSH COUNTY YOUTH FOUNDATION

The Rush County Youth Foundation represented by Julie Maramonti requested the closure of the Offutt-Ford Covered Bridge for a dinner fund raiser. Mark Bacon made the motion to approve the request with the stipulation that the neighbors are informed of the road closing, the organization takes care of the road closing signs and no alcohol is allowed on county property. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

IT

IT director Randy Herbert reported that three servers need to be upgraded. They include the Sheriff's server, the mail server, and the MVP tax server. The sheriff's recorder also needs to be replaced but the sheriff announced that 911 funds may be used for that equipment. Ken Masters moved to take the matter under advisement. Mark Bacon seconded the motion. Motion carried.

PROSECUTOR

Kristi Marshall representing the prosecutor's office explained that the investigator in the office had passed away and they found that they need to replace that contractual position. The funds are budgeted in the Pre-Trial Diversion Fund. No action was needed.

ANDERSON TWP

Nick White was present to request the county to support a pass through OKRA Grant for the Anderson Township.

BID OPENING

The bid opening for the heating and cooling system for the Rush County Courthouse was held at 9:30a.m. One bid was received from QPH. The amounts were not clearly presented for the two year contract so that bid was not accepted. Ken Masters moved that a Request for Proposals be slated for September 22nd at 9:30a.m. Mark Bacon seconded the motion. Motion carried.

HIGHWAY

Highway Superintendant Jerry Sitton announced that the Smith (1st) Covered Bridge will be closed for the scheduled Poker Run. Repairs will begin after Labor Day and be closed for 45 days.

Sitton asked the Board to sign the following DES #'s to close projects that have been completed in the past: #1173453 Signs; #9683000 Gings Road Project; #0710497 Phase I Carthage Pike; #0600227 Bridge 158; #0500918 Bridge 159; #0500829 Milroy Street Lights; #0500714 Bridge 12, Phase II Carthage Pike; #0500096 Bridge 143; #0400040 Phase II Carthage Pike; #0301026 Bridge 116. Mark Bacon made a motion to sign the DES numbers. Ken Masters seconded. Motion carried.

WIND FARMS

Attorney Leigh Morning addressed the board regarding the Flat Rock Wind Project. Apex Clean Energy has purchased the wind farm rights from Nordex. They are willing to reimburse Rush & Henry Counties for the professional fees expended in the negotiations with Nordex. Cory Murphy, Henry County's Economic Director is the lead person for both counties. Leigh Morning is working for both counties on road use agreement and an economic development agreement. There is a vague estimate of fifty-five windmills proposed for Rush County.

LIBRARY EXPANSION

The Rushville Public Library would like to expand their jurisdiction to all townships in Rush County with the exception of Ripley and Carthage. The library board has adopted a resolution to do so. They are now asking the Rush County Commissioners to adopt a similar resolution that would make it law. Mark Bacon moved to take the request under advisement. Ken Masters seconded the motion. Motion carried.

AUDITOR

- The Commissioners received notice of a special exception request to the APC for 103 N Main St. because the courthouse is an adjoining property.
- The Commissioners received an invitation to the ground breaking of a Homes for Our Troops home for Milroy veteran Jacob Lyerla on Sept 6th at 11:00 a.m
- Employee Marcia Snyder will be retiring from the Purdue Extension Office after 42 years of service. A retirement party will be held from 2:30-5:30.

Claims were approved on a motion by Ken Masters and seconded by Mark Bacon. Mark Bacon moved to pay the payroll claims. Ken Masters seconded the motion.

Ken Masters moved to adjourn. Mark Bacon offered a second. Motion carried.

/s/ Bruce Levi
Bruce Levi, Chairman

/s/ Mark Bacon
Mark Bacon

/s/ Ken Masters
Ken Masters

ATTEST:

/s/ Mary Ann Beard
Mary Ann Beard, Auditor